



Wabash Church of the Brethren

645 Bond Street Wabash, IN 46992 260-563-5291 office@wabashcob.org

April 2022

Peacefully, Simply, Together



We welcome all who are on the journey to know Jesus, who share in his love and who choose to embrace the diversity within this community of believers. As individuals we may be at different places along the path, but as a community, we are all traveling together in faith, trusting God to show us the way.

Pastor Doug Veal

As I look forward to Easter this year, I was thinking back on my childhood and celebrations of Easter as I grew up. Often, one of the things that we would do, as many did back at the time, was to get a new outfit for Easter each year. This varied a bit for us, depending on how finances were going for our family, but I do remember that most years, we'd at least end up getting a new shirt, or something else to wear on Easter. I remember in particular one year my father ended up getting a new sport coat to wear on Easter, one that he would wear that year and many following years. The reason I remember it was because of the color: it was bright pink! I never particularly cared for it, but it was something that he appreciated having and wearing for many years.

One of the other things that I remember is watching old biblical movies on Easter that were being shown on television. Now, this was back before we had cable. Indeed, I still remember looking forward to Annual Conference each year in part because it meant we'd have access to cable tv in the hotel for a week! So, without cable, we were limited to the small number of broadcast channels – basically the major networks (ABC, NBC, CBS, Fox, and PBS). It seemed for many years that on at least one of these channels each year there would be one of the old classic movies like *Ben Hur* or *The Ten Commandments* on Sunday afternoon, the day of Easter. We'd often end up putting one of these movies on when we got home from a long morning on Easter Sunday, usually after a Sunrise service, breakfast, and then regular worship service. I came to enjoy this, and still enjoy many of those old movies. Even after we finally got a VCR, when this practice seemed to be dying off from the broadcast channels, we'd often still put one of those old movies on to watch again on Easter.

I still often find myself watching movies based on Jesus, or other biblical themes, around the time of Easter. Most years, I make time in the run up to Easter to watch at least one or two of them, and sometimes more. It's been a few years since I've watched *Ben Hur* (mainly because it is so long), but will often watch other movies like *The Cotton Patch Gospel* (which I mentioned recently in one of my sermons), or *Jesus Christ Superstar* (sometimes, even multiple versions – it's one of my favorites, so have two different versions on DVD at home, as well as the original album on vinyl), or sometimes others.

I find this often helps me to begin to see the events leading up to Easter in a different way than simply reading through the Gospel accounts again, though that is still important! If you take nothing else from this article, at least take this: read through at least one version of the Easter story in the Gospels each year, and perhaps even read all four accounts. But there's something about watching the story on video that makes it more real to me. And even in the years before we had movies, many found that they wanted to get a view of what it may have looked like – there's a long tradition in Europe of what are called passion plays, which are re-enactments of the last week of Jesus' life that were put on across the continent. In fact, when I went out to National Youth Conference in 1998, one of our stops on the way was to attend a passion play on

the way out there. There's a famous version that is put on in Oberammergau, Germany every ten years that traces its lineage back to the 1600's (like many other things, the decennial play planned in 2020 was postponed due to COVID-19, but it's back on this year).

This desire to see what the story of Jesus' last week may have looked like is one that helps us to understand the enormity of the Good News that we receive each year at Easter: that Jesus was born for us, lived for us, died for us, and was raised for us. This central proclamation is the core of who we are as Christians. Our yearly celebration of Easter reminds us again and again of this important teaching, an important aspect of our faith. Let us, as we prepare for Easter this year, remember again and again that Christ's resurrection enables us to join together in faith, to worship our God together as members of the ongoing body of Christ.

In Christ,
Pastor Doug

Church Board

The April Church Board and Commissions meeting will be held Wednesday April 13, 2022, Commissions at 6:30pm, Board at 7pm.

Nurture Commission

Important:

Love Feast information:

This year's Love Feast will be held on Thursday, April 14 at 7PM in the Fellowship Hall. This will be the first opportunity we have to share communion together in-person since the beginning of the pandemic in 2020. There will not be an online option for this service, as we do not have the equipment to stream properly from the Fellowship Hall. We will be serving a light meal of cheese, crackers, and fruit. This year, we will be adapting our practice of feet washing to one of hand washing using wipes. This is not a permanent change, but one we have made to accommodate the ongoing pandemic. We will also have our tables set up to allow for social distancing. This is an important aspect of our communal faith, so we hope that you will plan to come to this special service this year. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to speak with Pastor Doug or one of our deacons.

Update on Pastor Doug's schedule for April:

At the end of April, Pastor Doug will be taking a trip out to Seattle, WA for a conference called "Inhabit 2022," as part of his work with the denomination's New and Renew Advisory Team. Because of this, we have arranged some changes to his schedule for April. Normally, he would be taking the last Sunday of April, April 24, as his Sunday away for this month. Instead, he will be preaching that Sunday, and will take Sunday, May 1 off instead. His usual week away from the office will come the week after Easter, April 18-23. He will then be out of town beginning the afternoon of Wednesday, April 27, and returning late in the evening on Monday, May 2. He will be back in the office on Tuesday, May 3. Laurie Kieffaber Cornett will be our guest speaker for May 1.

Newsletter update:

Moving forward, the newsletter will be sent out the last week of the month, so you will receive it in the first week of the new month. We are trying to get it out more consistently.

Holy Week events:

- April 10:** Palm Sunday
- April 14:** Maundy Thursday Love Feast - 7PM
- April 15:** Good Friday - plans TBA
- April 17:** Easter Sunday

Kay's return to worship:



As most have seen, Jim and Kay Gaier have returned to worshipping with our congregation after a time apart from us, after her retirement. There have been ongoing discussions with our former district executive, Beth Sollenberger, the director of the Office of Ministry for the Church of the Brethren, Nancy Heishman, Kay, Pastor Doug, and the Executive

Committee around this as there are a number of ethical questions and issues for a retired pastor returning to a congregation where she previously served as pastor. Through these discussions, a written agreement has been reached that will be on file with our congregation, the district, and the Office of Ministry. There are a number of areas that are covered, including how we will handle requests for Kay to participate in weddings and funerals, her ongoing support of pastoral leadership, and guidelines around pastoral care. Pastor Doug is happy to sit down with anyone who would like to review the agreement, and clarify any questions you may have. We are very happy to be able to welcome both Jim and Kay back to our congregation in this way, even as they will be sporadic in attendance due to her work as part of the interim team for the district executive position.

Sunday School

Sunday School will take place at 9AM, before worship. We will be meeting downstairs in the Fellowship Hall initially.



Worship Schedule - April

If you are interested in participating in the service, please contact the office, or talk to pastor Doug!

	Pulpit	Worship Leader	Song Leader	Head Usher	Children's Church	Musician
3	Pastor Doug Luke		Stan Miller	Larry Jamerson	Carol Horn	Laurie Kieffaber Cornett
10	Pastor Doug		Stan Miller	"	Laurie Kieffaber Cornett	Bonnie Haughn
14- Maundy Thursday	Pastor Doug		Stan Miller	"		Bonnie Haughn
15	Pastor Doug		Stan Miller	"	Carol Horn	Laurie Kieffaber Cornett
17- Easter	Pastor Doug	Linda Miller	Stan Miller		Laurie Kieffaber Cornett	Bonnie Haughn

24	Pastor Doug		Stan Miller		Carol Horn	Laurie Kieffaber Cornett
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Women's Fellowship

Plans are in the works for two Women's Fellowship outings.

First, the Peabody's 21st Annual Tulip Festival is on April 27 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm at Peabody's Retirement Community in North Manchester 400 West 7th Street, North Manchester IN 46962.

Then, on April 30th in the evening, A Grand Time: Through the Years, will be featuring local pianists, including Chloe Bishir, and multiple pianos.

Watch for further details and contact Laurie Kieffaber Cornett or the church office if you have questions or comments.

Upcoming Youth/Adult Activities

Summer Camp Registration Opens February 25th at 7pm!



The time has come to register for summer camp. All camps require a \$75 deposit to hold your spot. Camps are for grade completed this spring.

Questions about how to register?

Contact Brittany, the Camp Mack Registrar, at Brittany@campmack.org



Overnight Camps

Samplers	Grades 1-2	June 5-7, June 13-15, July 10-12	\$190
Seekers	Grades 3-4	June 19-24, July 17-22	\$450
Finders	Grades 5-6	July 10-15, July 24-29	\$460
Followers	Grades 7-9	June 26- July 1	\$460
CIT Camp	Ages 14-17	June 19-24	\$460
Youth Camp	Grades 9-12	July 3-9	\$475

Specialty Camps

Archery	Grades 6-9	June 5-9	\$440
Splash	Grades 5-8	July 10-15	\$485
Culinary	Grades 6-9	July 17-22	\$485
Creative Arts	Grades 6-10	July 10-15	\$460

Eco Camps

Eco Adventure	Grades 5-6	July 17-22	\$480
Survivor	Grades 6-9	July 10-16	\$485
Dadirri	Grades 9-12	July 3-9	\$485

Grand Camps

June 16-18; July 31- August 2
Grandchildren Ages 5-10 \$110
Grandparents \$160



Register at campmack.org/summer-camp

Hello Camp Mack Attendees,

Below is information regarding registration and our church transfer code that is required to get the 50% paid by our Wabash Church of the Brethren. Booklets listing all camps and more are at church.

Let us know if we can help you get your own kids/youth/grandkids to camp, plus others you know would benefit from the awesome experience.

– *Carol and Dennis*

Hi, my name is Brittany Hartman, and I'm the registrar here at Camp Mack. I wanted to check in as we close in on the opening of Summer Camp and Grand

Camp registration at Camp Mack (**Friday, February 25th at 7pm**) . In the past, your church has participated in our "church transfer code" system, AKA the gold sheet. This is truly the "gold standard" of registration, so we thank you for your participation.

Church Transfer Codes for 2022:

Wabash CoB

6WAB1 for 50% of camper fees

Things to remember:

Please remind your campers that after registration, they will need to click the "Make Payment" button on the financial tab. The prompt to enter a transfer code will pop up immediately.

Unless your church transfer code is for 100% of camp fees, they will need to pay their deposit to be officially registered (not just enrolled) for camp.

We encourage you to have your campers and their families register and pay online. By using the transfer code, they will know exactly the amount they owe, greatly reducing errors.

We ask that you do not gather camper family payments and submit them on families behalf.

For the church portion, we will email you an invoice to submit to the church for payment. These invoices will begin April 1, 2022 and run monthly through the duration of summer as needed.

If you notice any changes that need to be made to your invoice, please let us know as soon as possible.

Camp Mack Spiritual Retreat Opportunity for Adults

Join in this adult retreat exploring faith and the unique activities available at camp. An outside minister and camp staff will work together to provide spiritual growth and camp fun in a relaxing environment. Come and explore your faith and play in the beauty and sanctuary of Camp!

The winter retreat features a focus on centering our faith and lives, led by Amy-Gall Ritchie. The summer retreat will explore how we connect with God in nature, led by Randall Westfall

Fee: \$160 per person for 2 nights and 5 meals.

Dates: August 19–21, 7:00p Friday to 1p Sunday.

National Youth Conference

“Foundational”

Colossians 2:5-7

July 23 – 28, 2022 in Fort Collins, Colorado

The registration fee, which includes food, lodging, and programming, will be \$550. Youth who have completed ninth grade through one year of college at the time of NYC (or are age equivalent) and their adult advisors will gather at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colo. Online registration will open in early 2022 on www.brethren.org.

The cabinet discussed theme ideas relevant to senior high youth. Ultimately, the theme that emerged was “Foundational,” based on scripture from Colossians 2:5-7, “For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, and I rejoice to see your morale and the firmness of your faith in Christ. As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.”

We talked about all of the ways that God is revealed as the foundation for our lives throughout the Bible. Some examples of this are the cornerstone, the way that God can be seen as an anchor for our lives, and how we remain rooted in God in all circumstances.

Isabella Torres noted, “Picking the theme was difficult at first because we had so many different ideas, but all of our ideas always intertwined with having a foundation in God. To me, it is a great theme, and it is also something I find to be very important as a youth today.”

Luke Schweitzer shared, “I am really excited about this theme and I cannot wait to see what the speakers and youth do with it next summer.”

Watch for NYC 2022 updates at www.brethren.org and social media of the Youth and Young Adult Ministries.

— Erika Clary will serve as coordinator of National Youth Conference 2022, working in the Church of the Brethren’s Youth and Young Adult Ministries through Brethren Volunteer Service.

Devotionals – Upper Room

The Upper Room is available in the sanctuary. If you would like a copy mailed to you, please contact the office and please specify regular or large print. If you would like to pick one up the next time you are here, they are on the back table in the sanctuary.

Altar and Sanctuary Staging

We are looking for either a dedicated individual who would enjoy changing out the altar and window setups on a regular basis, or a small group who would like to rotate assignments. Please contact the office if you are interested.

2022 Directory

New directories are located on the back table.

Reading through the Bible in a year - March

1	Mark 5-6	9	1 Corinthians 13-14	17	Exodus 9-12	25	2Sam 1-4
2	1 Corinthians 11-12	10	Exodus 5-8	18	1 Samuel 26-31	26	Psalms 48-50
3	Exodus 1-4	11	1 Samuel 21-25	19	Psalms 45-47	27	Job 33-34
4	Samuel 16-20	12	Job 29-30	20	Job 31-32	28	Jeremiah 22-26
5	Psalms 39-41	13	Genesis 40-43	21	Jeremiah 17-21	29	Mark 13-14
6	Job 27-28	14	Jeremiah 12-16	22	Mark 11-12	30	2 Corinthians 4-5
7	Jeremiah 7-11	15	Mark 9-10	23	2 Corinthians 1-3		
8	Mark 7-8	16	1 Corinthians 15-16	24	Exodus 13-16		

Witness Commision

Special Offering

April 14	Guatemala Accompaniment
May 19	Church World Service
June 9	Growing Grounds

Growing Grounds News

Growing Grounds News

When you go past 571 South Wabash St. apartments now, you may notice lights on inside. This is the glow of (homeless) women now having a place to stay (at no cost) for a month while they are helped to figure out their next steps in life. Four of the apartments are occupied and the last two were cleaned and opened on January 3, 2022. To check about enrollment, women may call Rhonda at 260-568-2643.

A note of thanks...

A couple of days before Christmas, we received a call from FISH saying that a man with two young boys was homeless and sleeping in his truck. Upon calling him, he said that an accumulation of unfortunate incidents had converged to leave him homeless and asking for help for the first time in his life. After talking with him and reviewing the application he filled out, the GG committee decided to pay for a week at Knight's Inn for him and his boys.

We have just received a text from him thanking GG for being able to spend a warm Christmas with his boys, get cleaned up and presentable, and able to start making contacts for construction work in this area. "Thank you so much. You guys really helped me out in a time of need and I will not forget this. I am very thankful and it is not taken for granted." He is now collecting references to give us so that we can pass these along to those needing construction and millwright work. He already has some work lined up.

Little Free Pantry

Our local pantry is looking to supplement what we get from Milford each month. Additional items needed are:

Mac and Cheese boxes
Hamburger
Baked beans
Hamburger /Tuna/Chicken Helper
Peanut butter
Canned meat (tuna, chicken, etc.)
Jelly
Pasta
Saltines
Bread

Soups
Canned fruits and veggies
Saltines
Cleaning Supplies
TP/Tissue
Personal Hygiene items

Stewards Commission

Looking at a new and exciting way you can help the church? We are in need of a volunteer (or two or three) to help run the video streaming. A very positive outcome to sheltering in place is that we've been able to improve our ability to include family members who aren't normally able to worship with us, as well as reach beyond our community.

If you are interested, or know someone who would be, please contact Pastor Doug at pastordoug@wabashcob.org or Mikayla at office@wabashcob.org.

Around the District

District Office

South/Central Indiana District
Church of the Brethren

April 2022

⁹ *Woe to you who strive with your Maker,
earthen vessels with the potter!
Does the clay say to the one who fashions it, 'What are you making?'
or 'Your work has no handles?'*
¹⁰ *Woe to anyone who says to a father, 'What are you begetting?'
or to a woman, 'With what are you in labour?'*

Isaiah 45:9-10

Spring greetings, Siblings in Christ!

We're deep into the season of Lent, which is our spring-time "lengthening of days." (Lent comes from the word *long* because the days are getting longer.)

With all this extra light in the world, we can see more clearly: we see dust under the rocking chair and stacks of paper in the corner table.

Our spring cleaning can be spiritual, too. We might find renewed energy to work through an old hurt and release resentment. We might feel the hope of the warming days brings our spirit out of a slump.

And with greater vigor, we also might feel an urgency for personal growth, family harmony, church unity - for the world to make more sense or be more peaceful! And God urgently wants us to join Kingdom work!

I feel this in my work for your District: I want pastoral placements to be smooth, quick and utterly satisfying. I want disengaged congregations to find common ground and shared passions with other District churches ASAP. When, oh Lord, is the time to *revitalize* and when is the time to *let go* and await *resurrection*?

And then I turn to Isaiah and remember that the Potter has the big picture. We are going to be surprised, many times, by God's creativity. By the ways we are renewed, and the ways we are utterly transformed.

My prayer this Lent is that we all be reshaped by God's boundless creativity and love.

Anna Lisa



Camp Mack

Sabbath Rest



When you receive this letter, I will be on vacation. We are at a house on the beach in St. Augustine, Florida enjoying good friends, good books, puzzles, beachcombing, and area attractions. This is a vacation we take at different places every two years with a group of friends, and it is always recharging.

Today, however, as I'm writing this, it is a different experience. Yesterday, some things came up, so I needed to work long past the time I expected to go home. While working, a storm brought an inch of rain, some sleet and freezing rain, and then the snow. When I woke up this morning, we had about seven inches of heavy wet snow on the ground. I had an appointment at 8:00 AM and then about three hours in the office on my day off because of the unexpected work from yesterday. So, at 6:00 this morning, I cleared the driveway (apologies to my neighbors). I am tired.

Getting away is important. God calls us to rest and renew, but many times we get caught up in the busyness of our days so that taking time for ourselves gets pushed to the side. You wouldn't think it would be this busy in the winter at Camp, but there is a lot to do year-round. If I don't plan for vacation and time off, it doesn't happen. And, if it doesn't happen, my work and my attitude suffer.

Camp Mack is designed to be the place where you can get away to reconnect with the grace of God all around you. Some opportunities are only for a day, and others last several days. If you haven't received this year's activities brochure, call or email us, and we'll send it out to you. Your ability to meet the needs of others and your own joy in life are dependent on your ability to recharge.

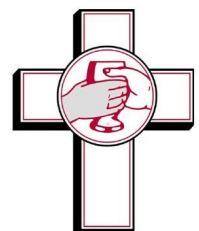
God regularly calls us to disengage from our day to day responsibilities. Camp Mack can provide a sabbath experience to renew your spirit and reconnect with God. Sign up today.

Gene Hollenberg, Executive Director

Brethren Disaster Ministries

Friends,

BDM is active and desires your participation. Children's Disaster Services has training scheduled in Roaring Spring, PA, November 5-6. CDS has been active in person this year on the US/Mexico border with migrant children and presently with children of families immigrating from Afghanistan. Call New Windsor, 800-451-4407 to ask questions or to register for one of the training sessions.



Thank you for your support and encouragement of BDM activities. Blessings of peace to you!

Cliff Kindy, District Disaster Coordinator

Brethren Disaster Ministries directs grants to CWS work on Ukraine, Haiti earthquake rebuilding, new project site in Tennessee

March 25, 2022

The Brethren Disaster Ministries staff have directed grants from the Church of the Brethren's Emergency Disaster Fund (EDF) to support the work of Church World Service (CWS) responding to the Ukraine refugee crisis; to support long-term programming and a new house construction phase of the 2021 Haiti earthquake response; and to finance the opening and initial phase of a new Brethren Disaster Ministries rebuilding project site doing flood recovery in Waverly, Tenn.; among other recent grants.

Song and Story Fest scheduled for Camp Pine Lake in early July

March 25, 2022

Song and Story Fest 2022 on the theme "Into the HEARTland: Healing What Divides Us" is scheduled for July 3-9 at Camp Pine Lake in Eldora, Iowa. Song and Story Fest is a unique family camp featuring Church of the Brethren musicians and storytellers, with co-sponsorship from On Earth Peace, organized by Ken Kline Smeltzer.

Brethren Leadership Institute

Due to current gathering restrictions, please contact the district office to confirm class schedule and method of delivery.